

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 through 7 and 12 are pending, with Claims 1, 2, 6, and 12 being independent. Claims 1, 2, 4 through 7 and 12 have been amended. The Official Action asked that Applicant provide support for the amendments. In response, Applicant respectfully wishes to direct the Examiner's attention to, e.g., page 68, lines 4-8, which state, *inter alia*, that the initiator *re-appends* the data buffer of the channel which is *not complete* in the status blocks of the previous ORB list, and appends a *new* data buffer to make next data transfer for the *complete* channel. Of course, the claims are not limited to the disclosed embodiments. Favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Claim 6 was objected to on the grounds that "but updating" should read --but updates--, and the claim has been amended as kindly suggested in the Official Action, thereby obviating the objection thereto.

Claims 1 through 7 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over previously-cited US 2003/0182503 A1 (Leong, et al.) in view of newly-cited US 2001/0027486 A1 (Takamoto, et al.). All rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 2, 6, and 12 variously recite, *inter alia*, transmitting a single command block which designates processing to be performed for the plurality of data buffers, and updating the one of the plurality of data buffers in accordance with the completion notification without updating the other data buffers among the plurality of data buffers.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that neither Leong, et al. nor Takamoto, et al., even in the proposed combinations, assuming, *arguendo*, that such could be combined, discloses or suggests at least the above-discussed claimed features as recited, *inter alia*, in Claims 1, 2, 6, and 12.

Applicant respectfully submits that Leong, et al. shows, e.g., that a storage system controls a disk in a disk array. However, Applicant respectfully submits that the storage system does not send a single command block which designates processing to be performed for a plurality of data buffers and does not update as claimed.

Applicant respectfully submits that Takamoto, et al. shows, e.g., returning sub-ACKs (e.g., 314-316), but that neither the foregoing nor the remainder of Takamoto, et al. bears any relation to the claimed single command block and updating/not-updating as claimed.

Applicant further respectfully submits that there has been no showing of any indication of motivation in the cited document that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at such features. By means of such features, Applicant respectfully submits that, for example, it is possible to transmit a single control block which designates processing to be performed for a plurality of data buffers and to perform updating.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

This Amendment After Final Rejection is an earnest attempt to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, and is believed to clearly place this application in condition for allowance. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that a full appreciation of these amendments will not require undue time or effort given the Examiner's familiarity with this application. Moreover, this Amendment was not earlier presented because Applicants earnestly believed that the prior Amendment placed the subject application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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